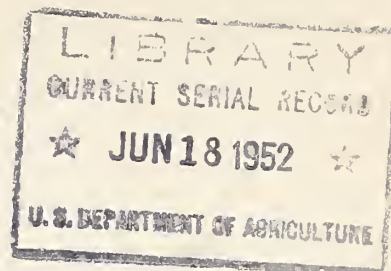


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Foreign CROPS AND MARKETS



VOLUME 64

NUMBER 23

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FOR RELEASE

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

L A T E N E W S

Cuba up to May 31, 1952 had produced 7,598,000 short tons (raw value) of sugar with nearly one-half the 161 operating mills still grinding cane. As of June 4, 61 mills were still grinding and indications are that the full 1951-52 crop will total 7.9 million short tons, compared with 6,348,000 tons last season and the previous record production of 6,675,000 tons produced in 1947-48. Many mills are setting new all-time high records for output this season. (See world sugar production summary on Page 521.)

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In Yugoslavia autumn grains and pastures in mid-May benefited greatly from excellent rains which fell just in time to allay fears of another drought. Spring plowing and planting also were aided. Lack of moisture during April and early May, combined with a 70-percent normal rainfall during the past 6 months in the Voivodina, the principal agricultural area of the country, had begun to cause some concern.

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In Rumania and Hungary, however, conditions have not been so favorable. Although rains, which were badly needed, fell in Rumania, the accompanying cold spell may have caused damage to root crops in some areas and to the grain crop in Transylvania. In Hungary, unseasonable frosts have reportedly damaged vegetable and root crops. Grain and forage crops were affected to lesser degree, except for corn which has been retarded with some kill.

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The suspension of the cotton export tax in Egypt, originally applicable to contracts concluded between May 19 and August 31, 1952, has been slightly revised to include registered contracts concluded before May 19 with actual shipments occurring between that date and August 31.

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NOTE: The table of cotton prices on world markets published weekly in Foreign Crops and Markets could not be included in the June 2, 1952 issue because of the Memorial Day holiday. It will be found on Page 529 of this (June 9) issue, however.

FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

Published weekly to inform producers, processors, distributors and consumers of farm products of current developments abroad in the crop and livestock industries, foreign trends in prices and consumption of farm products, and world agricultural trade. Circulation of this periodical is free to persons in the U. S. needing the information it contains in farming, business and professional operations. Issued by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

WORLD BUTTER AND CHEESE PRODUCTION, 1951 1/

Cheese Production Shows Slight Further Increase;
Butter Production Declines

Cheese production, both farm and factory, in the 22 major producing countries for which comparable data are available showed a slight increase in 1951 over 1950, but was about 30 percent greater than the prewar average. The increase over 1950 reflected the change in the general volume of milk production, which was slightly more than maintained. Farm and factory butter production in 1951, on the other hand, declined from a year earlier, and, being considerably less than it was prior to World War II, raises a question as to the likelihood of a recovery to prewar levels. Butter production in the 21 countries for which comparable estimates are available declined nearly 3 percent from 1950 and was nearly 14 percent less than in the prewar period. There has been only a gradual shift since prewar from farm to factory production of these products in reporting countries.

Cheese

Maintained or increased cheese production in 1951 as compared with 1950 was reported in 13 countries. This was generally the result of an increase in the demand for this product, reflecting in part the shortage and high price of meats and an anticipated increase in export demand. In some countries it reflected a relatively low ceiling price for fluid milk or a condition of milk surplus. The decline in cheese production in the other 9 reported countries was generally moderate and reflected a decline in milk production in most of them. The widespread production of this product on farms and in small, non-reporting plants, as practiced in a great many countries, makes any attempt at a world-wide estimate of cheese production appear inadvisable.

The estimates of cheese production shown in the table include that made from sheep and goats' milk as well as from cows' milk, from skim milk as well as from whole milk, and in most cases include estimates of production on farms.

Butter

The decline in butter production which was particularly noticeable in such important milk producing countries as the United States, Canada, Denmark, the Netherlands, Sweden, Argentina and Australia, was due to several factors. They include the increased demand for fluid milk and other whole milk products, the increased use of butter substitutes, uncertainties relative to export markets and prices, and controls affecting milk utilization and prices of this product in some countries. With the exception of New Zealand, the sharpest increases occurred in countries which are usually on a net import basis. Total world butter production, including ghee, is estimated at 8,200 million pounds, a decline of about 1 percent from the revised estimate of 8,300 million pounds in 1950. This represents a decline of about 15 percent from the estimated prewar total of 9,600 million pounds.

1/ A more extensive statement will soon be published as a Foreign Agricultural Circular available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

BUTTER: Preliminary estimate of production in specified countries in 1951,
with comparisons

Continent and country	Average 1934-38			1950			1951		
	Factory	Total	Million pounds	Factory	Total	Million pounds	Factory	Total	Million pounds
NORTH AMERICA									
Canada.....	1/	255	1/	261	308	258	258	304	
United States.....	1,673	2,178	1,673	1,386	1,648	1,215	1,215	1,464	
Cuba.....	1/	4	1/	3	3	2/	3	2/	3
EUROPE									
Austria.....	-	2/3/	51	-	54	-	-	52	
Belgium.....	46	156	156	71	167	75	75	170	
Denmark.....	401	401	401	396	396	371	371	371	
Finland.....	69	121	121	76	109	92	92	128	
France.....	220	529	529	-	529	-	-	584	
Germany, Western.....	560	681	681	571	595	608	608	657	
Greece 8/.....	-	9/	13	-	12	-	-	14	
Ireland.....	89	149	149	83	124	73	73	115	
Italy.....	-	111	111	-	128	-	-	135	
Netherlands.....	230	239	239	206	206	184	184	184	
Norway.....	24	51	51	26	40	25	25	39	
Sweden.....	153	190	190	240	245	234	234	239	
Switzerland 11/.....	-	58	58	-	42	-	-	55	
United Kingdom.....	54	101	101	37	55	13	13	31	
SOUTH AMERICA									
Argentina.....	-	66	66	-	100	-	-	82	
Brazil.....	51	72	72	-	-	-	-	-	
AFRICA									
Union of South Africa.....	12/	28	41	60	72	66	66	78	
OCEANIA									
Australia.....	7/	415	437	379	390	314	314	325	
New Zealand.....	7/	367	379	372	385	410	410	423	
Estimated world total 13/.....	-	9,600	8,300	-	8,300	-	-	8,200	

1/ Average 1935-39. 2/ Estimated. 3/ Average 1934-37. 4/ Average 1936-39. 5/ Average 1936-39.
6/ Average 1935-38. 7/ Years ending June 30. 8/ Made from the milk of cattle, buffaloes, sheep and
goats. 9/ Average 1933-37. 10/ For 1939. 11/ Made from the milk of cattle and goats. 12/ Years
ending August 31. 13/ Includes product weight of ghee in those countries where ghee production is
common, especially India, Turkey, Egypt and other Middle and Far Eastern countries.

CHEESE: Preliminary estimate of production in specified countries in 1951,
with comparisons

519

Continent and country	Average 1934-38			1950			1951		
	Factory	Million pounds	Total	Factory	Million pounds	Total	Factory	Million pounds	Total
NORTH AMERICA									
Canada.....	1/	120	121						
United States.....	643	643	643	1,193	98	1,193	1,158	86	87
Cuba.....	2/	3	6	5	5	10	3/	5	10
EUROPE									
Austria.....			69			29			28
Belgium.....			18	10	3/	13	12	3/	16
Denmark.....	69	69	69	130	130	130	165	165	165
Finland.....	5/	23	25	32	32	32	34	34	34
France 7/.....	3/	584	584			584	3/	617	617
Germany, Western 8/.....	2/10/	276	276	300	300	300	335	335	335
Greece 11/.....			129			95			110
Ireland.....			4			7			5
Italy 7/.....			524			613		3/	613
Netherlands.....	200	200	267	237	237	285	267	267	311
Norway 14/.....	40	40	50			58			64
Sweden 8/.....	76	76	88	114	114	114	120	120	120
Switzerland 14/.....			112			124			117
United Kingdom.....	15/	72	101	118	118	124	93	93	99
SOUTH AMERICA									
Argentina.....			68			215			209
Brazil.....	13/	60	93						
Uruguay.....			11			13		3/	16
AFRICA									
Union of South Africa.....	16/	10	11			20			21
OCEANIA									
Australia.....	10/	48	49	104	104	105	93	93	94
New Zealand.....	10/	211	211	238	238	238	226	226	226

1/ Average 1935-39. 2/ For 1937. 3/ Estimated. 4/ Average 1934-37. 5/ Average 1936-39. 6/ No estimate available on farm production. 7/ Made from the milk of cattle, sheep and goats. 8/ Apparently includes some low-fat cheese. 9/ Average 1935-38. 10/ Years ending June 30. 11/ Made from the milk of cattle, buffaloes, sheep and goats. 12/ Average 1933-37. 13/ Average 1936-38. 14/ Made from the milk of cattle and goats. 15/ For 1939. 16/ Years ending August 31.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated from official statistics, United States Foreign Service reports, and other information.-June 9, 1952.

Outlook

Total milk production in the principal reporting countries in 1952 is expected to be fairly well maintained or to decrease only slightly. Increases over 1951 are expected in New Zealand, Western Germany, and France. Slight increases are expected in Canada, Austria and the United Kingdom and some recovery in milk production toward the end of the year is expected in Australia, Argentina and Brazil, if weather conditions return to normal. The rate of expansion is being checked, however, by increasing fertilizer, feed, labor, and marketing costs, opportunities for relatively greater returns from other agricultural and non-agricultural enterprises and the necessity of diverting milk to lower price-class uses as fluid milk markets become satisfied. Production is expected to be no greater in 1952 and possibly less in the United States, Denmark, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland and in the Union of South Africa. The gradually increasing use of milk for direct consumption, however, is apt to result in slightly smaller supplies for industrial use. While some decline in cheese production is expected in Canada, Austria and the United Kingdom, most of any decline in industrial milk utilization is expected to affect butter and little decline in the output of cheese is anticipated for 1952.

Countries expecting maintained or increased cheese production are Denmark, France, Western Germany, Norway and Finland. Recovery sometime in 1952 is expected in Australia, Argentina and Brazil.

A slight further decline in butter production, among major reporting countries, is anticipated for 1952. Probable further declines in the United States, Denmark, the Netherlands, Sweden, Norway and the United Kingdom may more than offset expected increases in Canada, New Zealand, Austria, France, Western Germany and the possible recovery in Australia, the Argentine and Brazil.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.

WORLD SUGAR PRODUCTION REACHES NEW HIGH RECORD 1/

World production of centrifugal cane and beet sugar reached an estimated 38.2 million short tons, raw value, in 1951-52. This is approximately 4.1 percent more than the 36.7 million short tons of 1950-51, 37.9 percent more than the average 27.7 million tons of 1945-49, and 32.2 percent more than the average 28.9 million tons for 1935-39.

Indicated world production of non-centrifugal sugar has increased to 6.2 million short tons, tel quel, in 1951-52 from the 6.1 million tons of 1950-51. This output compares with the 5-year averages for 1945-49 and 1935-39 totaling 5.9 and 5.0 million tons, respectively.

World centrifugal cane sugar production is estimated now to total 24.1 million tons in 1951-52, an increase of 10.6 percent over the 21.8 million tons of last season. The 1951-52 production exceeds the 5-year averages for 1945-49 and 1935-39 by 31.3 and 40.9 percent, respectively. While sizable decreases in cane sugar production are noted in Australia, the Union of South Africa, and the United States, expanded acreage and favorable weather in other cane-growing areas have more than offset this decreased production. Cuba alone has increased production by 1.6 million tons and production in Asia is 660 thousand tons greater than that of last year.

Beet sugar production this season is estimated now at 14.1 million tons of 5.4 percent smaller than last year's crop of 14.9 million tons. The 5-year averages for 1945-49 and 1935-39 totaled 9.4 and 11.8 million tons, respectively. Production for 1951-52 in Europe was 360 thousand tons lower than the record crop of 1950-51 primarily because of unfavorable weather and disease damage to the crop. Sizable decreases in production are noted also for the United States and the Soviet Union while production has increased for the Asiatic beet sugar producers, Turkey and Iran.

In the North and Central American areas, centrifugal cane and beet sugar production is estimated to total 15.0 million tons, compared with 13.3 million tons in 1950-51. The staggering record production of 7.9 million tons estimated for Cuba after a much lower November estimate, may be attributed to higher yields than previously indicated and increased acreage. As of May 31, approximately half of the sugar mills in that area were still grinding, with approximately 95 per cent of the crop completed.

European production (excluding the U.S.S.R.) of centrifugal sugar totaled 9.7 million tons for 1951-52, a decrease from the 10.1 million tons of 1950-51. Adverse weather, disease and lower sugar content of beets offset increased acreage in most countries. However, increased production is noted in Austria, Western Germany, Italy, Rumania, Spain and Yugoslavia. The Soviet Union, which experienced a drought this year, produced an estimated 2.3 million tons in 1951-52 compared with 2.4 million tons in 1950-51.

1/ A more extensive statement soon will be published as a Foreign Agriculture Circular available from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

CENTRIFUGAL SUGAR (raw value): Production in specified countries
averages 1935-39, 1945-49, annual 1948-51 1/ 2/

Continent and country	Average		1948	1949	1950	1951 2/
	1935-39	1945-49				
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	short	short	short	short	short	short
	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons
NORTH AMERICA (cane and beet)						
British Honduras	1:	1:	2:	2:	2:	3
Canada (beet)	76:	99:	94:	120:	160:	129
Costa Rica	9:	20:	28:	23:	24:	24
El Salvador	17:	27:	26:	27:	31:	31
Guatemala	19:	33:	37:	40:	29:	33
Honduras	2:	2:	2:	3:	5:	7
Mexico	353:	636:	754:	692:	783:	835
Nicaragua	9:	21:	22:	26:	30:	32
Panama	5:	11:	12:	17:	19:	22
United States (beet)	1,513:	1,513:	1,370:	1,570:	2,012:	1,588
United States (cane)	474:	455:	477:	521:	564:	419
Hawaii	980:	861:	956:	961:	996:	1,045
Puerto Rico	974:	1,134:	1,277:	1,286:	1,228:	1,325
Virgin Islands of the U.S.:	6:	6:	5:	11:	7:	12
Antigua	22:	25:	20:	35:	21:	36
Barbados	114:	121:	152:	161:	184:	170
Cuba	3,183:	5,897:	5,761:	6,127:	6,348:	7,900
Dominican Republic	491:	506:	526:	524:	582:	665
Grenada	1:	1:	1:	1:	1:	1
Guadeloupe	60:	48:	47:	72:	82:	94
Haiti	44:	49:	49:	56:	65:	65
Jamaica	119:	235:	266:	304:	300:	313
Martinique	64:	29:	25:	41:	60:	47
St. Kitts	36:	40:	40:	46:	50:	50
St. Lucia and St. Vincent .:	11:	11:	13:	15:	14:	14
Trinidad	149:	144:	178:	164:	158:	170
Total North America	8,737:	11,925:	12,140:	12,845:	13,755:	15,030
EUROPE (beet)						
Austria	196:	46:	60:	74:	136:	175
Belgium	259:	247:	287:	378:	495:	294
Bulgaria	24:	44:	82:	60:	50:	68
Czechoslovakia	715:	584:	699:	691:	970:	880
Denmark	245:	248:	271:	331:	410:	385
Finland	13:	14:	26:	25:	25:	23
France	1,078:	823:	1,058:	971:	1,584:	1,396
Germany:						
Western Zone	610:	524:	681: 4/	691:	1,121:	1,168
Eastern Zone	979:	587:	750:	612:	919:	850
Hungary	125:	163:	270:	290:	280:	280
Ireland	89:	95:	106:	112:	108:	100
Italy	426:	335:	515:	557:	700:	833
Netherlands	261:	270:	314:	449:	453:	383
Poland	990:	597:	765:	931:	1,170:	1,050
Rumania	93:	81:	124:	123:	121:	143
Spain (beet and cane) 5/...	202:	200:	315:	207:	219:	393
Sweden	340:	311:	321:	321: 6/	343: 6/	324
Switzerland	13:	28:	30:	29:	31:	33
United Kingdom	514:	613:	695:	569:	847:	753
Yugoslavia	103:	127:	200:	121:	104:	195
Total Europe (excl. U.S.S.R.)	7,275:	5,937:	7,569:	7,542:	10,086:	9,726
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) (beet)	2,761:	1,643:	2,183:	2,205:	2,400:	2,300

CENTRIFUGAL SUGAR (raw value): Production in specified countries
averages 1935-39, 1945-49, annual 1948-51 1/ 2/

Continent and country	Average		1948	1949	1950	1951 2/
	1935-39	1945-49				
	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons
ASIA (cane)						
Afghanistan (beet)	-	-	-	5:	5:	5
Iran (beet)	23:	41:	43:	34:	68:	85
Turkey (beet)	76:	131:	145:	165:	168:	228
Burma	27:	10:	13:	4:	5:	16
China	438:	380:	400:	400:	400:	400
Manchuria (beet)	10:	5:	9:	6:	10:	10
Formosa	1,240:	372:	720:	708:	407:	610
French Indochina	77:	11:	8:	8:	7:	6
India	1,300:	1,304:	1,348:	1,310:	1,480:	1,575
Indonesia	1,207:	102:	100:	265:	306:	470
Japan (beet)	46:	11:	8:	15:	23:	31
Pakistan	30:	36:	49:	50:	55:	96
Philippines, Republic of ..	1,058:	382:	730:	685:	935:	1,080
Ryukyu Island	32:	0:	0:	0:	0:	0
Thailand	21:	28:	37:	35:	35:	35
Total Asia	5,585:	2,813:	3,610:	3,690:	3,904:	4,647
SOUTH AMERICA (cane)						
Argentina	510:	654:	660:	641:	718:	760
Bolivia	1:	2:	2:	3:	3:	3
Brazil	830:	1,418:	1,647:	1,480:	1,740:	1,846
British Guiana	210:	198:	195:	219:	243:	250
Colombia	51:	135:	173:	189:	215:	240
Ecuador	24:	44:	48:	54:	61:	56
Paraguay	6:	16:	14:	19:	26:	33
Peru	444:	483:	524:	479:	515:	515
Surinam	15:	5:	5:	3:	4:	4
Uruguay 7/	2:	2:	2:	2:	8:	14
Venezuela	22:	41:	48:	59:	53:	55
Total South America	2,115:	2,998:	3,318:	3,148:	3,586:	3,776
AFRICA (cane)						
Belgian Congo	14:	17:	19:	15:	15:	17
British East Africa	63:	89:	99:	91:	89:	88
Egypt	166:	211:	210:	193:	215:	220
Madagascar	14:	14:	13:	16:	15:	20
Madeira Islands & Azores (beet and cane) ..	9:	8:	8:	10:	10:	11
Mauritius	320:	351:	433:	460:	505:	533
Mozambique	81:	86:	83:	91:	101:	103
Angola	37:	49:	43:	47:	58:	54
Reunion	91:	81:	86:	119:	117:	138
Union of South Africa	498:	542:	608:	561:	686:	532
Total Africa	1,293:	1,448:	1,602:	1,603:	1,811:	1,716
OCEANIA (cane)						
Australia	893:	830:	1,056:	1,051:	1,032:	871
Fiji	150:	131:	150:	141:	134:	129
Japanese Mandated Is.	69:	0:	0:	0:	0:	0
Total Oceania	1,112:	961:	1,206:	1,192:	1,166:	1,000
World total (cane)	17,101:	18,355:	20,223:	20,584:	21,792:	24,102
World total (beet)	11,777:	9,370:	11,405:	11,641:	14,916:	14,093
WORLD TOTAL (beet and cane) ..	28,878:	27,725:	31,628:	32,225:	36,708:	38,195

1/ Centrifugal sugar, as distinguished from non-centrifugal, includes cane and beet sugar produced by the centrifugal process, which is the principal kind moving in international trade. 2/ Years shown are for crop years; generally the harvesting season begins in the fall months of the year shown or in the early months of the following year, except in certain cane-sugar-producing countries in the Southern Hemisphere, such as Australia, Argentina, Mauritius, Union of South Africa, etc. where the season begins in May or June of the year shown. 3/ Preliminary. 4/ Includes sugar from beets imported from Netherlands and Belgium. 5/ Includes a small amount of cane. 6/ Includes sugar from Danish beets processed in Sweden. 7/ 1950 and 1951 include a small amount of cane.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information. Estimates of countries having boundary changes have been adjusted to postwar boundaries.

NON-CENTRIFUGAL SUGAR: Production in specified countries
averages 1935-39, 1945-49, annual 1948-51 1/ 2/

Continent and country	Average		1948	1949	1950	1951 3/
	1935-39	1945-49				
	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons	1,000 short tons
NORTH AMERICA						
Costa Rica	15:	36:	38:	32:	29:	33
El Salvador	17:	27:	33:	15:	7:	10
Guatemala	31:	35:	35:	28:	28:	28
Honduras	8:	8:	8:	8:	8:	8
Mexico	83:	174:	170:	170:	170:	165
Nicaragua	7:	14:	15:	15:	15:	15
Panama	2:	9:	11:	11:	11:	11
Total North America	163:	303:	310:	279:	268:	270
ASIA						
Burma	86:	74:	75:	75:	75:	75
Formosa	32:	6:	13:	7:	3:	8
India	3,098:	3,366:	3,177:	3,280:	3,575:	3,675
Japan	4:	14:	20:	16:	18:	15
Pakistan	600:	771:	835:	840:	800:	800
Philippines, Republic of ..	63:	44:	35:	36:	40:	50
Ryukyu Island	90:	4:	3:	10:	18:	19
Thailand	17:	22:	21:	21:	21:	21
Total Asia	3,990:	4,301:	4,179:	4,285:	4,550:	4,663
SOUTH AMERICA						
Brazil	370:	404:	417:	417:	397:	397
Colombia	420:	755:	815:	715:	715:	720
Ecuador	15:	17:	17:	24:	23:	23
Peru	9:	25:	26:	27:	25:	25
Venezuela	60:	110:	130:	130:	130:	130
Total South America	874:	1,311:	1,405:	1,313:	1,290:	1,295
World total	5,027:	5,915:	5,894:	5,877:	6,108:	6,228

1/ Non-centrifugal sugar includes all types of sugar produced by other than the centrifugal process which is largely for consumption in the relatively few areas where produced. The estimates include such kinds known as piloncillo, panelo, papelon, chancaca, rapadura, jaggery, gur, muscovado, panocha, etc. 2/ Years shown are for crop years; generally the harvesting season begins in the fall months of the year shown or in the early months of the following year except in certain cane-sugar-producing countries in the Southern Hemisphere, where the season begins in May or June of the year shown. 3/ Preliminary.

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of U.S. Foreign Service officers, results of office research and other information. Estimates of countries having boundary changes have been adjusted to postwar boundaries.

South American sugar producers manufactured 3.8 million tons in 1951-52. Only Ecuador failed to maintain or increase production in this area. Brazil and Argentina accounted for the larger part of the increase of South American production. The drop in African sugar production from 1.8 million tons in 1950-51 to 1.7 million tons in 1951-52 partially reflects the large decrease of production in the Union of South Africa. All other areas of Africa except Angola increased production this season.

Adverse growing conditions in Australia and Fiji were responsible for the decreased production in Oceania from 1.2 to 1.0 million tons from 1950-51 to 1951-52.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

ARGENTINE SMALLGRAIN EXPORTS FOR CURRENT YEAR PRACTICALLY ENDED

While moderate quantities of corn may be shipped from Argentina during the balance of that country's current grain marketing season, the export movement of other grains is practically terminated for the year. Because of drought damage and resulting short supplies, wheat shipments have already been prohibited entirely, and virtually all remaining supplies of rye, oats, and barley are committed for domestic use.

The new wheat crop is still being estimated unofficially at the low figure of 85 million bushels, which is less than normal requirements. Although exports are now embargoed, the Government permitted about 3.7 bushels to move out during the first 5 months (December-April) of the current season to Brazil, Peru, and Paraguay in fulfillment of previous contracts. No further shipments of importance are expected until after December 1952. In the same 5 months of 1950-51, wheat exports amounted to 47.5 million bushels. The prewar (1934-35/1938-39) average for the same months was 61.9 million bushels.

Various measures taken to stretch available supplies of wheat were listed in the May 12, 1952 issue of Foreign Crops and Markets. Additional measures not previously reported include authorization to flour millers to use corn up to 10 percent of the finished product when millet is not available; an embargo on exports of millet to conserve supplies for mixing with wheat flour; authorization for the use of chemicals in bread baking; limitations on flour sales to household consumers; increased prices for flour and bread; and special measures to stop clandestine shipments of flour to neighboring countries.

While supplies of corn for domestic use and for export may be a little larger this season (April-March) than in 1951-52, shipments abroad will remain very small compared with the prewar average of approximately 240 million bushels. Harvesting of the new crop is not yet completed, but some unofficial estimates place it as high as 120 million bushels compared with 106 million bushels last year. The April 1, 1952, carryover has been estimated at 10 million bushels.

With domestic requirements estimated at a minimum of 95 million bushels, it is obvious that the quantities available for export during the 1952-53 (April-March) marketing season cannot be much larger than the low level of recent years. About 3.9 million bushels of old crop corn still remain to be shipped under existing contracts. New crop corn early in May was selling in the domestic market at 40 to 44 pesos per 100 kilos (\$2.03 to \$2.24 per bushel). In view of the shortage of other feeds for domestic consumption, the belief is that the Argentine Trade Promotion Institute will not be able to buy any new crop corn for export unless it raises its buying price which was fixed at 30 pesos per 100 kilos (\$1.52 per bushel) before the crop was planted.

Because of drought and heavy grazing, Argentina's 1951-52 harvests of rye, oats, and barley were less than domestic requirements. Exports during the first 5 months (December-April) of the current marketing season were possible only because of substantial December 1, 1952 carryovers. Little if any exports are expected during the remaining 7 months (May-November) of the Argentine marketing season for those grains.

Table 1 - Argentine Monthly Grain Exports for Specified Periods

Five Months December-April	Wheat	Rye	Corn	Oats	Barley
	1,0000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>bushels</u>	<u>bushels</u>	<u>bushels</u>	<u>bushels</u>	<u>bushels</u>
Average (5 months) 1934-35/1938-39	61,879	2,691	80,760	13,318	192,514
1950-51	47,544	4,169	574	2,668	67,251
1951-52					
December	1,521	674	1,712	1,563	6,327
January	1,272	966	4,196	533	9,871
February	736	1,167	2,777	1,464	8,078
March	55	1,433	1,033	453	3,709
April	84	627	2,135	67	4,207
Total	3,668	4,867	11,853	4,079	32,192

Argentina's monthly grain exports from December 1 to April 30 in 1951-52 compared with those for the corresponding 5 months in earlier years are shown in table 1. That country's total grain exports during the first 10 months (July-April) of the 1951-52 marketing season for grains in the United States are shown in Table 2.- By L. J. Schaben, based upon U. S. Foreign Service reports.

Table 2. - Argentine Grain Exports during April 1952 and July-April 1951-52 with comparisons

Destination	Wheat	Rye	Corn	Oats	Barley	All grains
	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons
April 1952						
Paraguay.....	2,249:	-	-	-	-	2,249
Peru.....	-	-	7,197:	-	-	7,197
Austria.....	-	-	3,937:	-	-	3,937
Belgium.....	-	-	2,500:	955:	-	3,455
Finland.....	-	10,647:	-	-	-	10,647
France.....	-	-	35,847:	-	-	35,847
Germany.....	-	4,030:	689:	-	17,893:	22,612
Netherlands.....	-	994:	257:	-	-	1,251
Yugoslavia.....	-	-	2,953:	-	-	2,953
Total.....	2,249:	15,671:	53,380:	955:	17,893:	90,148
April 1951.....	351,325:	62,295:	1,476:	1,083:	984:	417,163
July-April 1951-52						
Brazil.....	402,984:	-	-	1,569:	-	404,553
Chile.....	13,912:	-	-	-	-	13,912
Paraguay.....	41,759:	-	-	-	-	41,759
Peru.....	66,757:	-	7,197:	-	-	73,954
Austria.....	-	7,126:	11,318:	-	11,417:	29,861
Belgium.....	4,374:	7,565:	52,260:	11,015:	20,659:	95,873
Denmark.....	-	-	-	-	12,998:	12,998
Finland.....	-	39,514:	-	-	-	39,514
France.....	22,361:	-	267,726:	-	-	290,087
Germany.....	17,750:	14,265:	24,509:	26,564:	150,542:	233,630
Italy.....	47,595:	-	-	-	1,968:	49,563
Netherlands.....	6,653:	7,116:	10,024:	17,906:	9,840:	51,539
Norway.....	-	2,755:	1,968:	-	-	4,723
Sweden.....	-	44,642:	91,455:	20,688:	18,208:	174,993
Switzerland.....	-	2,726:	33,321:	22,607:	6,200:	64,854
United Kingdom.....	1,856:	-	17,473:	8,036:	-	27,365
Yugoslavia.....	-	-	2,953:	-	9,202:	12,155
Egypt.....	5,240:	-	-	-	-	5,240
Fr. Africa.....	27,491:	-	984:	-	-	28,475
India.....	141,184:	-	-	-	-	141,184
Total.....	799,916:	125,709:	521,188:	108,385:	241,034:	1,796,232
July-April 1950-51...	2,234,692:	153,022:	139,187:	234,295:	34,733:	2,795,929

PAKISTAN HARVESTS SMALL RICE CROP

Pakistan's 1951-52 production of rough rice is estimated at around 25,900 million pounds (18,100 million pounds milled), a decrease of 1,700 million pounds (1,200 million pounds) from a year earlier. The third official forecast released May 14 by Pakistan's Ministry of Food and Agriculture places production at 24,900 million pounds (17,400 million pounds). This estimate does not include an estimated 1,000 million pounds (700 million pounds) of the summer rice crop, which has not been harvested. The corresponding estimate in 1950-51 was 26,600 million pounds (18,600 million pounds), excluding the summer crop.

The May 14 forecast of 21,655,000 acres in 1951-52 as against 21,600,000 acres (excluding 800,000 acres under summer rice) in the corresponding period of the preceding year shows an increase of 0.3 percent. The gain, which occurred in Baluchistan and in the autumn and winter rice crops of East Bengal, is attributed to favorable weather at the time of sowing and to the high prices of rice.

There was a general decrease in the yield of rice throughout Pakistan, according to the press release. The decline in East Bengal was due to unfavorable weather, in the Sylhet district to floods, and in West Pakistan to an inadequate supply of water.

ARGENTINE GRAIN PRICES

Argentina's official price to corn producers for the current season has been increased to 40 pesos per 100 kilograms, the equivalent of \$2.03 per bushel at the prevailing rate of exchange for grain. This is an increase of a third over the earlier announced price for this season's corn. The announcement of the increase stated that this is in accordance with anticipated profits. The higher rate brings corn prices more in line with the existing level in domestic trade and should make more of the grain available to the Argentine Trade Promotion Institute, the agency that handles grain for export.

To assist in the corn harvest still underway, that agency is paying half the cost of rail transport for migratory labor and the army is providing troops for picking corn. Other recent actions designed to aid agricultural recovery are automatic extension of credits for drought affected growers and a promise that facilities are being established for the early manufacture of tractors and other farm machinery.

Announcement of the official price to be paid for next year's corn harvest is expected to be made at the approach of the planting season next September. Prices announced for next season's crop of small grains are to be increased at time of harvest if necessary to cover any increased production costs occurring since the prices were established last February.

(Continued on Page 538)

COTTON AND OTHER FIBERCOTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS
ON WORLD MARKETS

(Week of June 2)

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on world markets converted at current rates of exchange.

COTTON: Spot prices in certain foreign markets, U.S. gulf-port average, and taxes incident to exports

Market location, kind, and quality	Date 1952	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equiv. US¢ a lb. Spot quo- tation	Export & inter- mediate taxes
<u>Alexandria</u>		:Kantar				
Ashmouni, FG.....	5-29	: 99.05 lbs.	:Tallari	: 84.00	: 48.46	: -----
Ashmouni, Good.....	"	: "	: "	: 70.00	: 40.39	: -----
Ashmouni, FGF.....	"	: "	: "	: 61.00	: 35.19	: -----
Karnak, FG.....	"	: "	: "	: 144.00	: 83.08	: -----
Karnak, Good.....	"	: "	: "	: 111.00	: 64.04	: -----
Karnak, FGF.....	"	: "	: "	: (not quoted)		
<u>Bombay</u>		:Candy				
Jarila, Fine.....	"	: 784 lbs.	:Rupee	:1/ 620.00	: 16.52	: 10.66
Broach Vijay, Fine....	"	: "	: "	:2/ 775.00	: 20.65	: 10.66
<u>Karachi</u>		:Maund				
4F Punjab, SG, Fine....	5-28	: 82.28 lbs.	: "	: 83.00	: 30.43	: 13.85
289F Sind, SG, Fine....	"	: "	: "	: 93.00	: 34.10	: 13.85
289F Punjab, SG, Fine..	"	: "	: "	: 96.00	: 35.20	: 13.85
<u>Izmir</u>		:Kilogram				
Acala I.....	5-29	: 2.2046 lbs.	:Kurus	: 279.00	: 45.20	: -----
Acala II.....	"	: "	: "	: 243.00	: 39.37	: -----
<u>Adana</u>						
Acala I.....	"	: "	: "	: 231.00	: 37.42	: -----
<u>Lima</u>		:Sp. quintal				
Tanguis, Type 3-1/2....	5-27	: 101.4 lbs.	:Sol	: 473.00	: 30.09	: 6.19
Tanguis, Type 5.....	"	: "	: "	: 450.00	: 28.63	: 4.70
Pima, Type 1.....	"	: "	: "	: 550.00	: 34.99	: 9.26
<u>Recife</u>		:Arroba				
Mata, Type 4.....	5-29	: 33.07 lbs.	:Cruzeiro	: 300.00	: 49.36	: 2.4% ad
Sertao, Type 4.....	"	: "	: "	: 345.00	: 56.76	: valorem
<u>Sao Paulo</u>						
Sao Paulo, Type 5.....	"	: "	: "	: 283.00	: 46.56	: 3.0% ad
<u>Torreón</u>		:Sp. quintal				
Middling, 15/16".....	"	: 101.4 lbs.	:Peso	: 232.00	: 26.45	: 5.47
<u>Houston-Galveston-New</u>						
Orleans av.Mid. 15/16"	"	:Pound	:Cent	: XXXXX	: 39.25	: -----

Quotations of foreign markets and taxes reported by cable from U.S. Foreign Service posts abroad. U.S. quotations from designated spot markets.

1/ Reported 620.00 to 640.00 (17.05). Ceiling 820.00 (21.85).

2/ Reported 775.00 to 795.00 (21.19). Ceiling 925.00 (24.65).

COTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS
ON WORLD MARKETS

(Week of June 9)

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on world markets converted at current rates of exchange.

COTTON: Spot prices in certain foreign markets, U.S. gulf-port average, and taxes incident to exports

Market location, kind, and quality	Date 1952	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equiv. US¢ a lb.	
					Spot quo- tation	Export & inter- mediate taxes
Alexandria		Kantar				
Ashmouni, FG.....	6-5	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	84.00	48.47	-----
Ashmouni, Good.....	"	"	"	69.50	40.11	-----
Ashmouni, FGF.....	"	"	"	61.00	35.20	-----
Karnak, FG.....	"	"	"	141.00	81.37	-----
Karnak, Good.....	"	"	"	107.00	61.75	-----
Karnak, FGF.....	"	"	"	(not quoted)		
Bombay		Candy				
Jarila, Fine.....	"	784 lbs.	Rupee	1/ 650.00	17.32	10.66
Broach Vijay, Fine.....	"	"	"	2/ 780.00	20.78	10.66
Karachi		Maund				
4F Punjab, SG, Fine....	6-4	82.28 lbs.	"	38.00	32.27	13.85
289F Sind, SG, Fine....	"	"	"	93.00	34.10	13.85
289F Punjab, SG, Fine..	"	"	"	96.00	35.20	13.85
Izmir		Kilogram				
Acala I.....	6-5	2.2046 lbs.	Kurus	275.00	44.55	-----
Acala II.....	"	"	"	247.00	40.01	-----
Adana		"	"			
Acala I.....	"	"	"	235.00	38.07	-----
Lima		Sp. quintal				
Tanguis, Type 3-1/2....	6-3	101.4 lbs.	Sol	473.00	30.09	6.32
Tanguis, Type 5.....	"	"	"	450.00	28.63	4.70
Pima, Type 1.....	"	"	"	552.00	35.12	9.39
Recife		Arroba				
Mata, Type 4.....	6-5	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	300.00	49.36	2.4% ad
Sertao, Type 4.....	"	"	"	3/ 350.00	57.58	valorem
Sao Paulo		"	"			
Sao Paulo, Type 5.....	"	"	"	283.00	46.56	3.0% ad
Torreón		Sp. quintal				valorem
Middling, 15/16".....	"	101.4 lbs.	Peso	242.00	27.59	5.49
Houston-Galveston-New						
Orleans av.Mid. 15/16"	"	Pound	Cent	XXXXX	40.00	-----

Quotations of foreign markets and taxes reported by cable from U.S. Foreign Service posts abroad. U.S. quotations from designated spot markets.

1/ Reported 650.00 to 670.00 (17.85). Ceiling 820.00 (21.84).

2/ Reported 780.00 to 800.00 (21.31). Ceiling 925.00 (24.64).

3/ Nominal.

1951-52 SAO PAULO COTTON
PRODUCTION FAVORABLE

The second official estimate of the 1951-52 cotton crop in the State of Sao Paulo, Brazil, placed production at 1,300,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross), slightly less than the 1,334,000 bales estimated in the first official forecast, according to Anneliese C. Bueno of the American Consulate General staff, Sao Paulo. The most recent estimate of the current season's crop is about 33 percent above the final estimate of 975,000 bales for the same State in 1950-51. In past years final estimates have usually been below the preliminary estimates. The weather during April and May was favorable for harvesting following the rather heavy rains in March which caused some damage to the quality of the cotton. In addition to direct injury to the cotton bolls, the heavy rainfall hindered insect control measures, thereby contributing to still more extensive damage to the cotton. About 60 percent of the crop was reportedly picked by the latter part of May.

With planting just nearing completion, it is still too early to forecast the 1952-53 cotton production in North Brazil. Rainfall in recent months has been above average, assuring a fairly adequate supply of moisture to germinate the seed. Insect damage particularly by caterpillars, has not been excessive. The crop is expected to exceed considerably the 1951-52 production, recently estimated at only 265,000 bales as a result of the prolonged drought in 1951.

The Government of Brazil on March 17, 1952, established a minimum price for the 1951-52 cotton crop in South Brazil of 250 cruzeiros per arroba of 15 kilograms (equivalent to 41.13 U. S. cents a pound) based on Type 5 at Sao Paulo. Premiums and discounts for variations in grade and staple were to be fixed at a later date. Originally, the government announced that it would purchase cotton from private holders at the support price, only if a minimum price of 85 cruzeiros per arroba (slightly less than 14 cents a pound) had been paid to the growers for their seed cotton. Under this arrangement, the ginners complained that they could not cover their costs when required to pay almost 14 cents for unginned cotton. On the other hand, the growers stated that they could not meet the cost of production unless they received the full minimum price for their seed cotton. In order to implement this cotton price support program the government early in May authorized the Bank of Brazil to make purchases of unclassified seed cotton directly from the growers through 4 local firms at the minimum price of less than 14 cents a pound. Some members of the trade have pointed out that since the quality of the current crop is below normal the purchase of unclassified seed cotton at about 14 cents a pound will make the price of the base grade, Type 5, equivalent to about 15.3 cents a pound on an unginned basis. All ginners who purchase unginned cotton at the minimum price are entitled to financing at 80 percent of the minimum price of 41.13 cents for cotton lint.

The price of Type 5 cotton at Sao Paulo decreased steadily from the equivalent of about 58 cents a pound early in January to a low point of 42 cents at the end of April. Since early May, perhaps as a result of the clarification of the support program by the government, prices have increased somewhat, standing at 46.56 cents a pound (excluding the export tax) on May 29.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTSTHE DAIRY INDUSTRY
IN MEXICO ^{1/}

Recent developments in the Mexican dairy industry indicate an upward trend in production and show prospects for a marked improvement in the quality of the output. The industry has emerged from the period of decline and slow recovery which followed the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in December 1946 and the outlook is for more rapid expansion than heretofore.

Among the developments pointing in the direction of increased production are: (1) a new interest in enlarging herds on the part of dairymen in the chief producing districts; (2) herd improvement through the importation of good sires and through a beginning of the practice of artificial insemination; (3) the granting of special governmental credits for dairy production; and (4) the building of new plants for pasteurizing and processing milk. At the same time, efforts are being made to improve the quality of the milk supply in the principal consuming centers. Among these are: (1) the enactment for the first time in several cities of regulations requiring the compulsory pasteurization of milk; (2) plans now being developed for improving milk transportation facilities; and (3) the recent establishment of a private association of milk producers for the purpose of guaranteeing the purity of the product sold by its members.

The leading dairy breed is the Holstein, which accounts for about 80 percent of the total number of dairy cattle in Mexico. Dairying is generally a pasture industry except in areas close to Mexico City and other major consuming centers. The most prevalent cattle diseases are brucellosis, mastitis and tuberculosis. Considerable progress has been made in controlling bovine tuberculosis. In the subtropical districts of the country, tick fever causes considerable losses among dairy cattle.

Total consumption of cows' milk in Mexico is estimated at about 155 pounds per capita per year. The distribution of milk in bottles and through home delivery is rapidly being adopted in many of the larger cities. As with fluid milk, consumption of butter, cheese, evaporated and condensed milk, and ice cream is at much lower levels than in the United States.

Costs of milk production and prices for dairy products have increased steadily during the past few years. The prices of fluid milk and condensed, evaporated and powdered milk are regulated by law but those of butter, cheese and ice cream are not.

About 80 percent of the country's requirements of powdered milk are imported along with some condensed and evaporated milk, butter and cheese.

^{1/} A more extensive statement soon will be available as a Foreign Agriculture Circular by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

CANADIAN LIVESTOCK AND MEAT SITUATION 1/

Canada's \$2 billion livestock industry received a severe set back during the first quarter of 1952 because of an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in South Saskatchewan. Although it has been necessary to slaughter only 1,700 head as of May 15 in connection with the outbreak, confused marketing conditions have resulted from ensuing embargoes on livestock and meat shipments reports William L. Rodman of the American Embassy in Ottawa.

A hog surplus, which may total 90 million pounds by late fall, is flooding storage facilities to capacity. The Canadian Government has established a \$26 per cwt. floor price for hogs and has bought 35 million pounds of canned pork, 31 million pounds of the 5 basic cuts, and nearly 15 million pounds of Wiltshire sides. No substantial outlet has been found for these purchases. The problem is compounded by an expected 22 percent increase in the spring pig crop this year.

The cattle surplus in 1952 may total up to 80 million pounds carcass weight. This situation has been greatly relieved by a tripartite agreement between Canada, England and New Zealand whereby at least 40 million pounds of Canadian beef will be sent to England to fill the remaining portion of the 1952 United Kingdom-New Zealand meat contract. A corresponding amount of New Zealand meat will be marketed in the United States.

FATS AND OILS

BOLIVIA SUSPENDS CUSTOM SUR- CHARGE ON EDIBLE OIL IMPORTS

The Bolivian Government has suspended Article 9 of Supreme Decree No. 02902 of December 21, 1951, which applied a custom surcharge to importations of edible oils, according to information available to the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. The decree was initially introduced to facilitate the development of a domestic edible oil industry (see Foreign Crops and Markets of February 25, 1952, page 156).

The Government explains that the national industry is unable to supply domestic needs, and that during the period in which local production is insufficient, it is necessary to take such action to increase edible oil supplies. The Government likewise explains that its action is not to be construed as exposing the domestic edible oil industry to the risk of foreign competition, but that the protectionist policy of the Government will continue in full force. It is further explained that rural dwellers must be made a component part of the consuming public, and that this is another reason why additional supplies of edible oils must be placed on the market.

1/ A more extensive statement will soon be published as a Foreign Agriculture Circular by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.

NICARAGUA HARVESTS LARGE SESAME CROP

Nicaragua's recently concluded 1951-52 sesame harvest is estimated officially at 10,650 short tons from 50,070 acres, reports J.P. Rourke, Assistant Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Managua. Well-informed private sources believe that the crop may have amounted to as much as 13,180 tons. Either figure, however, represents a considerable increase from the approximately 7,600 tons produced in 1950-51.

Sesame seed is the only oilseed of economic significance, with the exception of cottonseed, produced in Nicaragua.

Domestic consumption of sesame seed, always of slight importance, declined even further during the past year when most of the local mills crushed only cottonseed because of larger net returns. It is likely that not more than 50 to 75 tons of seed were consumed in 1951.

Exports of sesame seed during 1951 amounted to 8,958 tons compared with 8,230 tons in 1950. The United States, the principal buyer, purchased 4,112 tons. Stocks as of early May were estimated at 3,800 to 4,000 tons, as approximately two-thirds of the 1951-52 crop had been sold.

Prices decreased from U.S. \$15 per Spanish quintal (\$296 per short ton) f.o.b. Nicaraguan port early in 1951 to between \$10 and \$11 (\$197 and \$217) by October and November. Early in 1952 prices rose again to \$12 (\$237) but dropped to a nominal quotation of \$8 (\$158) in early May. Venezuela has been the best market so far this year.

The outlook for sesame seed in Nicaragua is fairly poor. It appears that unless the average Nicaraguan farmer can be reasonably sure of selling his seed for at least U.S. \$10 per quintal f.o.b. port, there is little or no incentive to plant. On the other hand, with the present slump in cotton prices, there would not seem to be any other crop to which sesame planters could turn with any great expectation of profit, and, rather than allow their investment in land and machinery to remain idle, many farmers may take a chance on a rising market for vegetable oils later in the year.

Nicaraguan cottonseed production may be estimated at around 20,000 tons on the basis of the lint production estimate for the 1951-52 season.

Oilseeds of minor significance produced in Nicaragua include coconuts, African oil palms, castor beans, flaxseed, and peanuts. Exports of coconuts during 1951 fell off sharply from 1950, and informed sources state that production on the east coast is declining owing to miscellaneous pests and diseases. Plantings of African oil palms in eastern Nicaragua now total approximately 2,000 acres, of which 1,200 acres will be in production by the end of 1952. One mill is in operation, with a second expected to commence operations this summer and a third to be erected in 1953. About 775,000 pounds of oil are expected to be produced this year compared with 40,000 pounds in 1951 (September-December).

Production figures for castor beans, flaxseed, and peanuts are not available. Small quantities of castor beans and oil were exported in 1951--all to the United States.

COSTA RICA TO MEET VEGETABLE OIL REQUIREMENTS BY 1952-53

Present plantings of African oil palms in Costa Rica are expected to fill that country's requirements of vegetable oils for edible and soap-making purposes by late 1952 or early 1953, reports E.L. Tanner, Agricultural Attache, and R.A. Anderson, American Embassy, San Jose. Of an initial planting of 7,100 acres, about 300 acres came into bearing late in 1951 and produced some 85 short tons of unrefined oil. About 9,100 acres had been planted by the end of 1951, and another 1,000 acres will be planted during 1952.

The production of other vegetable oilseeds in Costa Rica in 1951 is estimated at 2,060 tons, compared with 1,710 tons in 1950. Sesame seed (165 tons) and peanut (510) production fell below 1950 levels, whereas copra (495) and cottonseed (890) output increased. Estimated recovery of unrefined oil from the 1951 oilseed crop was about 700 tons, compared with the 1947-50 average of 740 tons.

Animal fat production in Costa Rica consists principally of hog lard with about 1,300 tons being produced each year. Although no data is available on tallow output, cattle numbers in Costa Rica are increasing notably and production of tallow may attain significant proportions in future years. Tallow imports for 1947-1951 averaged only about 170 tons, as compared with 215 tons during the preceding 5-year period.

On the basis of imports of caustic soda, an important component in the manufacture of soap, production of soaps in Costa Rica is estimated to have averaged about 4,760 tons during 1947-51. On the same basis, average soap output amounted to only 2,920 tons during 1942-1946.

Imports of vegetable oils and animal fats in 1951 totaled 667 and 3,468 tons, respectively. Cottonseed oil (426 tons), mostly from Curacao, and hog lard (3,346), almost all from the United States, were the principal importations. In addition, 2,064 pounds of copra from the Philippines and 202 tons of vegetable lard were imported in 1951. Imports of laundry and toilet soap and of special soap products averaged 309 tons during the past 5 years, as compared with 196 tons during 1942-46. No exports of vegetable oilseeds or oils from Costa Rica were reported in 1951.

The total estimated visible supply of edible vegetable oils and animal fats in Costa Rica in 1951 was 5,620 tons, an increase of 14 percent from 1950, principally due to larger imports of hog lard. Of the 1951 total supply, hog lard accounted for 4,670 tons, vegetable lard for 200 tons, and vegetable oils for 750 tons.

INDIA CONTEMPLATES PEANUT OIL EXPORT QUOTA TO NEW-COMERS

With a view to widen the scope for peanut oil exports, the Government of India is contemplating the allocation of an export quota to new-comers, according to an Export Trade Control Circular issued at Madras May 10, 1952, reports Robert M. Taylor, American Consulate, Madras. A similar circular is understood to have been issued by the Joint Chief Controller of Exports at Bombay and Calcutta. The circular sets forth the terms and conditions on which applications for export quotas will be considered and the category of exporters who are eligible for an export quota. However, the mere fact that applications are being called for does not guarantee that a quota will necessarily be allotted to an applicant.

No export quota was allotted to new-comers during the last fiscal year, April 1, 1951 to March 31, 1952. According to trade sources, the contemplated allotment of an export quota to new-comers this year by the Government of India possibly is intended as a means of bringing in more peanut oil exporters and as a likely revival in the export trade of this commodity.

Measures taken earlier this year to assist in improving the export trade in peanut oil include the abolition of the export duty on peanut oil (see Foreign Crops and Markets, "Late News" item, March 24, 1952) and the establishment of the export quota for peanut oil for the 3-month period April-June 1952. (See Foreign Crops and Markets, April 28, 1952.)

CHILE'S MARINE OIL OUTPUT INCREASES

Chile's production of whale and sperm oil in 1951 is estimated at about 5,800 short tons, or slightly above the 5,640-ton output of 1950, reports S.N. Milliken, Assistant Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Santiago. The output of the large Compania Industrial's land station at Quintay, near Valparaiso, declined by about 5 percent from 1950, but this is believed to have been more than offset by the production of a smaller station operating near Talcahuano. Previous information submitted to this Office erroneously indicated that the smaller company (Macaya Hnos) had retired from whaling operations.

Approximately 3,800 tons or 65 percent of the total 1951 output consisted of sperm oil. In 1950 sperm oil made up almost three-fourths of the total production. Chile utilizes practically its entire production of both whale and sperm oil in the manufacture of soaps, washing powders and margarine. Exports of whale oil in 1951, all to the United States, were reported at slightly more than one ton. No imports of whale or sperm oil were registered in 1951.

Chile also produces some 650 short tons of fish oils annually, of which about 100 tons are of medicinal quality. There is a good demand for industrial fish oils and the industry could well be enlarged beyond its present size. This probably will come about partly as the result of the rapidly growing interest in fish meal for poultry feed. Chilean fish oil, as of the last of April, was sold at 18 to 20 pesos per kilogram (U.S. cents 7.8 - 8.6 per pound).

FRUITS, VEGETABLES AND NUTS

VEGETABLE SHIPMENTS FROM MEXICO HIGHER IN 1951-52

Exports of fresh vegetables from the West Coast of Mexico to the United States and Canada for the season just ended, amounted through May 15 to 212.4 million pounds, 16 percent above the previous season's shipments of 183.4 million pounds. Tomatoes amounted to 85 percent of this total and were 15 percent higher than shipped during the same period last season. Watermelon and cantaloupe shipments have nearly doubled last season's shipments. The 1951-52 season has been a profitable one for both growers and distributors, with fair prices and good growing conditions throughout the season.

Exports of Fresh Vegetables from the West Coast of Mexico to the United States and Canada

Season ended May 15			
Item	1950	1951	1952
	<u>1,000 lbs.</u>	<u>1,000 lbs.</u>	<u>1,000 lbs.</u>
Tomatoes	146,872	156,753	180,307
Green peppers	17,086	15,093	18,786
Green peas	6,915	6,765	5,431
Watermelons	1,210	2,671	4,384
Cantaloupes	3,900	1,796	3,015
Honeydew melons	0	152	0
Mixed vegetables	364	218	487
Total	176,347	183,448	212,410

TOBACCO

CEYLON'S TOBACCO PRODUCTION AND IMPORTS HIGHER; EXPORTS LOWER

Ceylon's 1951-52 tobacco harvest is preliminarily estimated at 7 percent above the 1950-51 crop, according to W. M. Kahmann, American Embassy, Colombo. Imports of tobacco and tobacco products during 1951 were 29 percent above 1950. Exports of tobacco and tobacco products during 1951 were 27 percent below 1950.

The country's 1951-52 tobacco crop is tentatively estimated at 8.0 million pounds from 11,300 acres as compared with 7.5 million pounds from 12,300 acres in 1950-51. Yield per acre for the 1951-52 crop is estimated at 695 pounds as compared with 768 pounds in 1950-51.

Imports of tobacco and tobacco products in 1951 totaled 3.2 million pounds as compared with 2.5 million pounds during 1950. The 1951 imports were comprised of 1.9 million pounds of unmanufactured tobacco and 1.3 million pounds of manufactured tobacco. The United States supplied 1.1 million pounds of unmanufactured tobacco during 1951 and India supplied 0.8 million pounds. India, the most important source of manufactured products during 1951, supplied 1.2 million pounds of beedies. The remaining 0.1 million pounds of manufactured tobacco consisting of cigars, cigarettes, snuff, and "other" tobacco was supplied in varying quantities by the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia, and India.

Exports of tobacco and tobacco products during 1951 totaled 1.0 million pounds as compared with 1.4 million pounds in 1950. India took over 99 percent of Ceylon's tobacco exports.

HONDURAS' TOBACCO PRODUCTION DECREASED

Honduras' 1951-52 tobacco harvest is now estimated at 51 percent below 1950-51, according to J. I. Copeland, Vice Consul, American Consulate, San Pedro Sula.

The country's 1951-52 crop is now estimated at 5.0 million pounds from 14,000 acres. This compares with 10.2 million pounds from 13,285 acres produced in 1950-51 and 11.1 million pounds from about 14,000 acres in 1949-50. This substantial reduction during 1951-52 is attributable to unfavorable weather conditions. Native dark leaf tobacco, known as "Copan" tobacco, comprised practically the entire 1951-52 crop; however, flue-cured leaf production is expected to total about 175,000 pounds or an increase of 17 percent over the 150,000 pounds produced in 1950-51.

Most of Honduras' leaf production is either consumed domestically or exported to El Salvador. However, no unmanufactured tobacco export data are available for the 1951 calendar year.

Annual cigar production is estimated at about 200,000,000 cigars during 1951, the majority of which were produced by hand as a home industry. Cigarettes are manufactured by one company which is located at San Pedro Sula. Cigarettes manufactured by this factory in 1951 totaled 638,476,200 cigarettes. This compares with 552,027,600 cigarettes in 1950.

G R A I N--(Continued from Page 528)

The promised increases are in reply to various press articles alleging that the official prices had lost their significance as a stimulus to seeding because of subsequent increases in freight and other costs. Prices originally set were reported in Foreign Crops and Markets, March 10, 1952. Those prices presumably can now be regarded as only minimums from which upward adjustments may be made.

Under the price policy announced major adjustments in foreign exchange or payment of substantial subsidies would be necessary to allow surpluses from the next crop to compete in world markets.

